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Attempts to Probe Aspects

of Garrison's Investigation

From the Allen-Scott Report

District Attorney Jim Garrison's controversial New Orleans investigation of the Kennedy assassination is beginning to attract some belated congressional attention.

Staffs of the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Senate Internal Security subcommittee are quietly checking into Garrison's wide-ranging inquiry to determine exactly what he is now up to.

At present, the attention of these congressional probers centers around Garrison's interest in and handling of (1) an official of the Ku Klux Klan and (2) a former congressional committee employee, who has given secret testimony before the New Orleans grand jury.

Significantly, both of these persons were reluctant witnesses in past congressional investigations not related to the Kennedy assassination.

The KKK official involved in Garrison's investigation is Jack M. Helm.

the former Exalted Cyclops of the New Orleans, La., unit of the United Klans of America. He is now head of an independent KKK group which he organized

Summoned before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in January 1966 during the committee's probe of the KKK, he was an uncooperative witness.

Helm, an operations manager of a New Orleans construction company, invoked the 5th, 1st, 4th and 14th Amendments of the Constitution in refusing to answer any of the questions put to him by committee members.

The transcript of the committee hearings shows that one of the questions Helm refused to answer concerned his appearance on a speakers' platform with three persons who were arrested in connection with the slaying in Philadelphia, Miss., of three civil rights workers.

Testimony was presented during the hearing by a committee investigator that "At the rally Helm stated, 'No congressional investigation will ever deteriorate this [KKK] organization. We'll still be here when they are dead and buried—and I hope it will be soon.'"

Garrison began his probe of Helm on a tip from Jules Rocco Kimble, a self-avowed member of the KKK, who also claimed he once worked special assignments for the CIA. This the CIA denies and Garrison claims he will prove.



New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison's investigation of the JFK slaying seems to expand daily.

According to Garrison, Kimble reported that on the day after the death of David Ferrie, one of Garrison's suspects in the alleged Kennedy assassination plot, he drove Helm to Ferrie's apartment. Helm then came out with a satchel full of papers which, Kimble says, the KKK official then placed in a bank safe deposit box.

At this stage of his investigation Garrison refuses to say whether he has located the safe deposit box or recovered its mysterious contents.

However, aides of the district attorney are hinting that he has the key and that the box's contents will be revealed during next month's trial of Clay Shaw, the New Orleans businessman charged with being involved in a Kennedy assassination conspiracy.

Garrison is also probing an allegation of Kimble that Walter Sheridan, the former Justice Department troubleshooter for then Atty. Gen. Robert Kennedy, once counseled him not to talk to anyone and to go to Canada.

The former congressional employee whose furnishing of information to Garrison has interested congressional probers is Harold Weisberg, author of books on the Kennedy assassination attacking the Warren Commission, the FBI and CIA.

According to records of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and the House Committee on Un-American Activities, Weisberg is the same person

ments in an attempt to link the Dies committee to the Silver Shirts.

At that time the Silver Shirts was a militant right-wing organization on the attorney general's subversive list. The documents were used in an abortive attempt by a Michigan congressman to smear the Dies committee, forerunner of the present House Committee on Un-American Activities.

The records of the Senate Internal Security subcommittee also show that Weisberg was dropped from the staff of the late Sen. LaFollette's Special Investigating subcommittee for allegedly leaking subcommittee confidential information.

Weisberg, whose latest book carries a foreword by Garrison, has appeared several times before the New Orleans grand jury being used by the district attorney for his inquiry. In his publications Weisberg contends that Lee Harvey Oswald, accused Kennedy assassin, was framed by an impersonator.

The congressional probers are now checking Weisberg's long-time contacts in the Central Intelligence Agency and State Department, including several persons who transferred to those agencies from the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) after World War II.

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REP. ROMAN PUCINSKI, liberal Democrat from Illinois, charged recently that federal programs for upgrading education in poverty areas have been a failure despite an outlay of nearly \$1 billion. "There is growing evidence," he said, "that for the most part Title I programs have been a disappointing failure in many communities of our country."